

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01 FEAE-00 SS-20 SAM-01

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /144 W

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P 051933Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3615

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USAEC GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 1699

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, PARM, TECH, CA, AR

SUBJECT: IAEA SAFEGUARDS AND PNE'S

REF: OTTAWA 1667

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. GLOBE & MAIL, ONE OF LEADING CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS, CARRIED ARTICLE DATED OTTAWA, JUNE 4, INDICATING THAT GOC WAS REEXAMINING IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENTS IN SPECIAL CONNECTION WITH RECENT CANADIAN-ARGENTINE SALE. AMONG OTHER COMMENTS, ARTICLE SAID "AS IT STANDS, EVEN A NATION UNDER STRICT IAEA NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS COULD BUILD A NUCLEAR DEVICE. ALL THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED UNDER EXISTING AGREEMENTS IS THAT THE NATION INFORM THE IAEA IT IS DIVERTING SOME PLUTONIUM FROM A REACTOR TO BUILDING A PEACEFUL NUCLEAR DEVICE, ONE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL SUGGESTED" END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. ACCORDING TO RESPONSIBLE CANADIAN OFFICIALS IN BOTH AECB AND EXTAFF, ARTICLE DISTORTS AND DDRAMATIZES LEGITIMATE CONCERN WHICH GOC AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS HAVE HAD FOR SOME TIME CONCERNING THE PRECISE SEMANTICS USED IN IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENTS. AS DIRECT RESULT OF RECENT INDIAN TEST, GOC IS, IN FACT, REVIEWING THE WHOLE SAFEGUARDS PICTURE, FROM
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THE POINT OF VIEW OF ASSURING ITSELF THAT FUTURE SAFEGUARDS

AGREEMENTS ADEQUATELY REFLECT CANADA'S POLICY THAT ITS NUCLEAR ASSISTANCE SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ANY MILITARY PURPOSE, I.E., INCLUDING "PEACEFUL" NUCLEAR EXPLSIVIES.

3. FINAL DECISION HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED CONCERNING WHETHER OR NOT THE SPECIFIC SEMANTICS ISSUE VIS-A-VIS PNE'S WILL BE RAISED AT FORTHCOMING BOARD OF GOVENORS MEETING IN VIENNA. EXTAFF AND AECB "VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT ISSUE MUST BE SQUARELY FACED" WHEN AGREEMENT COVERING ARGENTINE-CANADIAN SALE COMES BEFORE BG. OTHERS (SEE OTTAWA 1667) WOULD PREFER TO SIDESTEP A DIRECT CONFRONTATION AND CONTINUE TO RELY ON POLICY TACITLY DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED

BY PRIOR STATEMENTS OF GOVERNORS IN BOARD MEETINGS TO THE EFFECT THAT IT WAS THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT IAEA SAFEGUARDS MEANT NO PNE'S.

4. EXTAFF ACTION OFFICER, GEORGE HAYNAL, CURRENTLY PLANS TO ATTEND BG SESSION IN VIENNA AND IN DISCUSSIONS HERE HE HAS BEEN TOLD THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY FOR FULL CONSULTATION BEFORE GOC EXPRESSES ANY NEW PUBLIC POSITION. HAYNAL FULLY AWARE OF USG INTERESTS IN PNE ISSUE AS IT RELATES TO OUR OWN NUCLEAR MATERIALS EXPORTS.

5. COMMENT: IN DISCUSSING GLOBE AND MAIL ARTICLE WITH CANADIAN OFFICIALS, SCIATT COULD NOT AVOID IMPRESSION THAT THEIR CONCERN WAS FOCUSED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE INDIAN TEST AND A DESIRE TO AVOID BEING PUT INTO SAME POSITION A SECOND TIME. THIS FOCUS OF CONCERN MAY WELL HAVE INTRODUCED A CERTAIN MYOPIA WITH RESPECT TO THE SIMILAR BUT DIFFERENT INTERESTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES WHO, WITH CANADA, HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED AGENCY SAFEGUARDS. HOPEFULLY, CONVERSATIONS HERE WILL HAVE AT LEAST ALERTED EXTAFF OT U.S. INTERESTS AND THE NEED FOR CLOSE CONSULTATION. A COPY OF ARTICLE IS, HOWEVER, BEING AIR POUCHED TO EACH ADDRESSEE. IN CASE CANDEL VIENNA OR GOC OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON DO NOT INDEPENDENTLY RAISE SUBJECT, VIENNA AND DEPARTMENT CAN, IF THEY SO DESIRE, USE COPY OF ARTICLE AS BASIS FOR INDEPENDENTLY RAISING SUBJECT WITH CANADIAN COUNTERPARTS.

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Message Attributes

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